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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Room 222
DOCKETS

18 FEB 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7330-7/1700A3

Honorable Richard G. Lugar
United States Senate
SH 306 Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RECEIVED

APR 12 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Lugar:

This is in reply to your letter of February 5, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice ~~proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private~~

Honorable Richard G. Lugar

2.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituents' concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituents to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ralph A. Haller", is written over a horizontal line.

Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:

Notice

Order

Discussion paper

Incoming correspondence

Congressional

DUE OBC 2-17-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/09/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300479	02/09/93	02/05/93	02/22/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Richard Lugar	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Jim Newman <i>several</i>	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/LMMD 8-10-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/09/93			

RICHARD G. LUGAR
INDIANA

SH 306 SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
202-224-4814

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 5, 1993

COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN RELATIONS
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

PRB
92-235
479

FCC
Attn: Legislative Affairs
1919 M Street
Washington, D.C. 20554

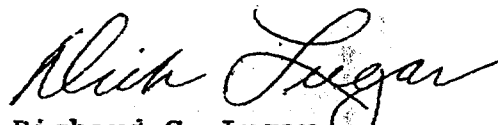
Dear Sir/Madam:

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested.

Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with the return of the enclosure, will be greatly appreciated. Please direct your reply to the attention of Darlee Williams of my Washington office.

Thank you for your thoughtful attention.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Lugar
United States Senator

RGL/dwl
Enclosure

RECEIVED
FEB 10 2 06 PM '93
PRIVATE MAIL ROOM

219 - 942 - 2571

Jim Newman

4 Cleveland Terrace

93 JAN 28 1976 Hobart

How will we be affected by the FCC proposal? I will explain that, too:

The radio control industry was allocated a number of channels (or frequencies) for the safe operation of radio controlled model aircraft, model boats and model cars. The present allocation keeps a spacing of 10KHz between fixed base commercial users and radio control model users. Radio Control models operate in the 72 to 76 MHz band, the primary use of which is for private, fixed base, land based mobile dispatch operations, with the radio control channels slotted in between the dispatch channels, with sufficient separation that SAFELY ensures there is NO interference between channels. Notice the emphasis on safety here. More of that anon.

The NPRM on Rules Docket 92-235 seeks to replace Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88:

As it presently stands Part 90 allows SAFE use of Radio Control by keeping 10 KHz spacing between the channels of fixed base commercial users and the channels of the radio control users.

The new Part 88 will allow users on frequencies within 2.5 KHz of channels available to radio control users. This means, in layman's language, that the channels would overlap, rendering model control totally ineffective.

THE END RESULT OF THIS WOULD BE RADIO CONTROL MODEL AIRCRAFT BECOMING UNGUIDED MISSILES.

What it would also effectively do is to eliminate 31 of 50 channels in the 72 MHz (aircraft) band and 10 out of 30 channels in the 75 MHz (car/boat) band, with the great possibility that even more channels are likely to be affected further down the road.

Imagine the result of suddenly switching off the guidance system of a Tomahawk cruise missile....it goes amok with devastating results.

Radio controlled model aircraft are no longer the fragile balsa wood sticks and tissue paper of yesteryear. They are now sophisticated flying machines up to fourteen feet wing spread and weighing several pounds. A typical model seen at radio control flying fields is usually around six feet wingspan and weighs up to ten pounds. The flying speed of that model would be 60 to 80 mph -- although some racing models fly at speeds in the high triple digits. A model such as those quoted, suddenly receiving spurious signals will be directed into areas not intended by the ground based pilot, and he will be completely helpless to do anything about it.

With any luck -- for bystanders -- the model will impact the ground. If it does not, the danger to spectators and property is enormous since a model of those proportions and weight possesses the energy of a .357 MAGNUM..... it can seriously damage property and it can KILL.

Are these models dangerous? Not in the hands of properly trained

operators who fly under the strict guidelines of the nation's model aviation governing body, the Academy of Model Aeronautics, (an associate member of the National Aeronautic Association) which sets rigid guidelines for the layout out of flying fields and the operation of models, not the least of which is strict frequency control and coordination to ensure non interference between operators.

The FCC obviously has little or no idea of the size of the industry which will be affected by their proposals. Picking up one of the

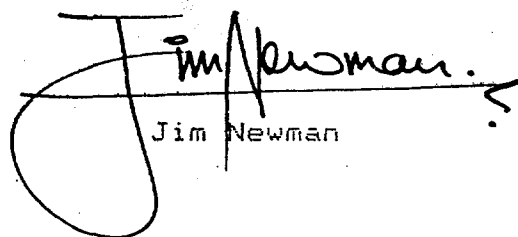
programs as part of their education system. Even in the USA model aviation is recognized as a teaching tool in many schools, working in conjunction with the hobby industry and full size aviation foundations such as the Experimental Aircraft Association out of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Address almost any aviation "name" whether that person be military pilot, airline pilot, astronaut, general or admiral and you will find that person started his or her career with an involvement in model aviation. I know that is certainly true with many members of congress. You can easily see that we must do all we can to keep model aviation, and in particular RC which provides a tremendous stimulus to many, very much alive and well. It is through model aviation that we obtain many of our engineers and aviation personnel.

You might recall that during the recent Desert Storm offensive, small, remotely controlled aircraft made a very significant contribution to that war's success by carrying out unpiloted reconnaissance flights over occupied territory, thus eliminating the need to expose allied manned aircraft to the hazards of anti aircraft missiles and gunfire. The development of those remotely piloted aircraft was a direct result of involvement by the radio control hobby industry and independent modelers, whose skills were employed by the industry and the military to develop these vehicles. Without their contribution and with direct government involvement, that program would have cost multiple BILLIONS in US tax dollars.

SENATOR LUGAR, PLEASE HELP US AND A VERY SIZABLE INDUSTRY
BY OPPOSING THE FCC'S PROPOSAL ON NPRM DOCKET 92-235.

THE DEADLINE FOR COMMENT IS FEBRUARY 26th, AFTER WHICH IT WILL BE
VERY DIFFICULT TO HALT THE PROCESS.

Yours very sincerely,


Jim Newman

January 25, 1993

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

93 JAN 27 PM 5:47

I am retired and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. I am very active in a local club of 80 members operating at a public park.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

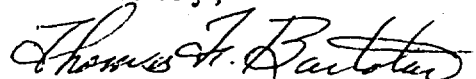
When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,



Thomas F. Bartolac

Deep River RC Flying Club

7502 Bigger Street
Merrillville, IN 46410

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

93 JAN 23 PM 2:20

Urgent: Serlous problem with PR Docket 92-235.

Dear Senator Lugar

Please help! Under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) are frequency use changes that will adversely affect the lives of millions people.

I am one of these people affected. For many years my family and I have enjoyed the building and flying of radio controlled model airplanes. I have a considerable investment in this hobby. If these changes are adopted by the FCC, the current RC frequencies will become dangerous to use because of direct radio interference.

The frequency changes are proposed by the FCC Land Mobile Service. The FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM - PR Docket 92-235)

Can you imagine an RC airplane, costing several hundred dollars or more, crashing to the ground because someone in a car uses a "mobile" telephone in the vicinity. We modelers have controls and rules in place to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and also the protection of surrounding property. But there will be no protection against these new frequencies because they are "mobile" and we would never know where they are.

All over the country there are organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. Spectators often number in the thousands at these events. This hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and my family. ***Please help keep model avlation safe.***

The FCC must not be allowed to carry out its proposals for the 72 - 76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Michael Gessner
3414 Worcester Pl
West Wayne Indiana

Urgent: Action needed before February 26, 1993.

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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Sincerely,



John & Betty Gilruth
361 Etna Ave.
Huntington, IN 46750

Urgent: Action needed before February 26, 1993.